

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 331

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the Bearden High School boys' basketball team upon winning the TSSAA Division I Class AAA State Championship.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are pleased to specially honor and commend those successful school athletic teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, one such exemplary group of student athletes is the Bearden High School boys' basketball team, which achieved an extraordinary level of success during the 2018-2019 season by capturing the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Division I Class AAA State Championship; and

WHEREAS, during their dominant tournament run at the Murphy Center at Middle Tennessee State University, the young men of Bearden High School advanced through the bracket by defeating Franklin High School by a score of 76-46 in the quarterfinals and Whitehaven High School by a score of 76-60 in the semifinals; and

WHEREAS, their final opponents were the three-time defending champion East High School Mustangs; smarting from a loss to the Mustangs in the semifinals last season, the Bearden High School Bulldogs defeated the Class AAA powerhouse 83-68 to finish the season with an impressive 32-5 record; this title marks the first boys' basketball state championship in school history and the first boys' Class AAA basketball state championship for a Knoxville-area team since 1977; and

WHEREAS, the Bearden Bulldogs had four players named to the All-Tournament Team: Drew Pember, Shamarcus Brown, Trent Stephney, whose twenty-two point championship game helped surge the Bulldogs to their convincing win, and Jacques Glover, who was chosen as

Most Valuable Player for the tournament and who tied the nationwide number-one recruit for most points in the championship game with twenty-four and added four rebounds, five assists, and a steal to lead his team to victory; and

WHEREAS, the young men of the Bearden High School boys' basketball team have displayed ability, teamwork, and perseverance, and with the help of their coaches, parents, teachers, school administrators, supporters, and many fans, they have represented their school and the State of Tennessee in fine fashion, displaying peerless character both on and off the basketball court; and

WHEREAS, during this incredible championship season, the members of the Bearden High School Bulldogs etched their names into the annals of Tennessee sports history; their dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent not only made possible a successful and memorable basketball season but also surely point toward their success in future endeavors; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate the members and coaches of the Bearden High School boys' basketball team upon winning the TSSAA Division I Class AAA State Championship and extend to them our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.